Special package to industries

4222. SHRI GIREESH KUMAR SANGHI: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating to announce any special package to help the industries to compete in the international market;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) to (c) Sir, Government is operating a number of export promotion schemes like Advance License, EPCG, DEPB, DFRC, Vishesh Krishi Yojana, Served from Indian Scheme etc. These schemes are primarily duty neutralization schemes and enable Indian Exporters to effectively compete in the International Markets. In the recently announced Annual Supplement to Foreign Trade Policy on 8th April, 2005, certain procedural simplifications and Trade Facilitation measures have also been announced.

The Government is also implementing the Industrial Infrastructure Upgradation Scheme (IIUS) to enhance international competitiveness of domestic industries by upgrading physical infrastructure in select industrial clusters through public-private partnership approach. These schemes are implemented through Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

World Bank aid for Poverty Alleviation Programmes

4223. PROF. ALKA BALRAM KSHATRIYA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether financial aid has been provided by the World Bank and Asian Development Bank to India during the last two years for implementation of Poverty Alleviation Programme in Gujarat;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the number of States which have utilised such funds?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI S.S. PALANIMANICKAM): (a) No, Sir.